

Governor' s H.B. No. 7027 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING JUNE THIRTIETH 2019, AND MAKING APPROPRIATIONS THEREFOR.'

Senator Osten,
Representative Walker,
Senator Formica,
Representative Ziobron,
and members of the Appropriations Committee;

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this written testimony.

I' m hardly surprised but certainly alarmed at Governor Malloy' s attack on Connecticut residents who lawfully maintain or choose to newly obtain a pistol permit.

This proposed rate hike of over 400% is nothing short of a push to limit permit holders to the wealthy. If passed this would mean an over 850% fee increase for pistol permit holders over the last five years. Currently, the cost of Connecticut pistol permits is already triple the national average.

This move is a tax increase on pistol owners, and tantamount to additional gun control in Connecticut. As a taxpaying voter, and law-abiding citizen, I must register my opposition to this fee increase.

Further, the increase in fees is more than likely to increase the number of non-permit pistol carry violations for those who cannot afford the permit fees, creating a burden on law enforcement and judiciary throughout the state.

I urge that you **OPPOSE** Section 48 (T1854) and Section 58 (T1938) of H.B.

7027 that would support the Governor' s proposed pistol permit rate increase. By appropriating the funds received from the rate increases you will be supporting the pistol permit and application fee increases.

I urge that you **do not support** any more attacks on the law-abiding gun owners of this state.

Thank you for your consideration.

Michael Patton

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